



# BRIDGES

*A Newsletter of New Baptist Church - August 2020*

## Masks

I hate wearing a mask to church. From the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, people attending church are required to wear a mask and keep socially distanced. There were a few weeks that we thought the pandemic was getting better, and we rolled back the second service requirement on the masks only to return it after virus rates in our area began to climb. Thank you to those who have worn their masks at church. For now, the requirement of face-masks for those attending in-person church services remain. But I hate wearing a mask. There are several reasons that I dislike wearing one. Wearing a mask makes it hard to breathe, it fogs up my glasses, it irritates my skin, and it causes me to smell my breath (yuck). The primary reason though, is that wearing a mask hides people. When I preach on Sunday mornings and look out into the congregation, all that I see are eyes staring back at me. I did not realize how important facial expressions are in communicating until this time of mask-wearing. I miss the smiles, the smirks, and even the sometimes grimaces. I miss the loud singing and hearty laughter. I miss seeing people. I miss seeing the Gospel's work lighting up people's faces.

I think God hates masks even more. Not the cloth masks that we wear because of the Covid-19 virus, but the masks people put on pretending to be something that they are not. The more common masks that people wear are often called things like, "the façade of being happy," or "putting on a show," or "putting on my happy face," or "I am fine," or the many other ways that people (we) place a veil over what is happening in our hearts. A veil that we hope hides our fears, hides our discomfort, hides our sins or shortcomings, hides our insecurities, or hides our

anger. People did not just start wearing masks to church with the arrival of Covid-19; masks have always been worn to church. These are the masks that God hates.

In 2 Corinthians 3, Paul makes a connection between the wearing of a veil (mask) and the hardening of people's hearts to the Gospel. The spiritual truth that Paul is speaking about is that when we hide ourselves from God, we do not hear God speak, nor do we see His work. "*But (Paul says) when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed (2 Corinthians 3:16).*" We are to approach the Lord with unveiled faces. Why? Paul says that when we turn to God without hiding our true selves behind our masks, we behold the glory of the Lord and by doing so are transformed by His glory.



Are you wearing a mask to hide from God? Are you pretending to be something that you are not, fearful that people will see the real you? God hates masks; which means for us, we have freedom in approaching the Lord. In Christ, we can approach Him without religious pretense, fully confessing any form of sin or brokenness, without any fear of losing His love or His embrace. In Christ, what we seek to hide in ourselves becomes transformed by His glory when we approach Him without wearing our masks. "*And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit (2 Corinthians 3: 18).*" Take off the mask of your fake self and worship the Lord in freedom!

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Trent Eastman



**Audy Perry** was featured on the front page of a recent article in the Herald-Dispatch as he was showing two new outdoor exhibits in the now open **Heritage Farm Museum and Village**. The new “Appalachian Backyard” exhibit consists of a new nature center and a treetop canopy walkway. The nature center will give visitors a chance to explore amphibians, reptiles (are you listening, Tom Pauley?) and fish native to West Virginia and Appalachia. The walkway is made up of five tree platforms connected by two suspension bridges that span 120 feet in total. Carpenter **Shane Hufford** was pictured twice in the July 14 issue of the Herald-Dispatch as he was assembling and installing personal protection barriers at Marshall University. The barriers are being placed to implement MU’s return-to-campus plan.



The coronavirus has created some problems with being able to hold regular services and bible studies but it is a good time to clean up around the church. Classrooms, the church library, the playground are just a few areas that could use some attention. If you could help in any of these areas, please contact the church office.

**Senior Adult Fellowship Luncheon – canceled for August.**



- 03 *Bob & Karen Adams (5<sup>th</sup>)*  
*Lee & Jennifer Adams*  
*Scott & Michele Blake*
- 05 *Richard & Katrina Eskins*
- 07 *Brandon & Michelle Morgan*
- 09 *Tony & Megan Hazelett*
- 10 *Mark & Carla Booth*  
*Pete & Anita Jones*  
*Jim & Ann Spurlock*
- 11 *Emmitt & Dolores Adkins*  
*Art & Suzanne McCallister*
- 12 *Jay & Rebecca Powers (25<sup>th</sup>)*
- 14 *Craig & Susan Black*
- 18 *Glen & Karen Dailey*
- 19 *Rodney & Paula Adkins*
- 22 *Larry & Mary Baker*
- 24 *Jim & Lisa Blake (35<sup>th</sup>)*
- 25 *Terry & Amy Smith (30<sup>th</sup>)*



- 1 Carol Jones  
Marie Nelson  
Carl Pemberton
- 2 Olivia Frye  
Jake Sharp
- 4 Brandon Morgan  
Drake Watkins
- 5 Emmitt Adkins  
Brian Brown
- 6 J.R. Carman  
Paula Stewart  
Seth Summers
- 7 Amy Kelly  
Laura Perry
- 8 Kristi Haney  
Brian Kelly  
Luke Sierson
- 10 Becky Huff  
Molly Lydick  
Don Pennington
- 11 Lisa Riley
- 12 Rodney Adkins  
Lindsey Manchester  
Judy Swann  
April Walker
- 13 Erick Willis
- 17 Sandra Dowling  
Eliza Wilson
- 18 Pat Baisden  
Karl Egnatoff  
Ryleigh Pennington
- 19 Bobby Mannon
- 20 Becky Arkell  
Byron Davis  
Tessa Mattson  
Jack Rickman  
Peggy Saunders
- 21 Jerry Briggs  
Tony Hazelett
- 22 Donna Lipscomb
- 23 Jessica Chaney  
Tracy Foster
- 24 Tiffany Kendrick  
Tyler Marcum
- 25 Myrna Eastman  
Gloria Pauley  
Matthew Walker
- 26 Ashley Sharp
- 27 Dean Caldwell  
Beth Perry  
Emma Wagner
- 28 Bill Lapole
- 29 Laurel Campbell  
Renee Kessinger
- 30 Henriella Perry  
Jo Ellen Willett
- 31 Fern Allred  
Michele Blake  
Chad Booth  
Nina Boso  
Wylie Jeffrey, Jr.  
Darlene Kendrick



The covid-19 pandemic is taking a toll on all of us. Many of you have taken heed to the “stay-at-home” orders and the continued admonitions to avoid crowded places. Wearing a mask in public places is not pleasant but necessary. We have protocols and guidelines in place for when we gather for worship that requires physical distancing and masks. It is difficult not to shake hands or hug your church family and yet that is the reality of the day. Many of us are gathering for worship in front of our TV and thanking God for technology that allows livestreaming of the service. We miss the relationships and face to face interaction.

Barna research recently found that about a third of people have disengaged from church during the pandemic. I believe that many of those will re-engage when we are able to offer other ministries like Sunday School and Children’s church. The question is, “How do we maintain and grow in our personal walk with the Lord during this time of separation?” Let me share some tools we offer to help you grow as a disciple of Jesus:

1. We offer two worship services each Sunday at 9:00 and 11:00. I am pleased to say that at both people are wearing masks and sitting physically distanced in order to protect our sisters and brothers as best we can. The 11:00 service is livestreamed on Facebook Live.
2. There are small groups meeting virtually each week to discuss the morning message. If you are interested in joining in a group, please call the church office and let us know.
3. Wednesday evening Bible Study is each week at 6:00. These are either livestreamed or recorded and posted on Facebook and the church YouTube page.
4. For Sunday School, the Radio Bible Class is live on 930 AM and 94.1 FM each Sunday at 9:30am. The video is than available on the church YouTube page. Jeff Fetty posts a Sunday School lesson on Facebook each Sunday morning.
5. There are opportunities for youth and children to engage virtually with teachers.
6. Pastor Trent, Pastor Lee and I all have blogs that we hope will be helpful to you in your walk with the Lord. Pastor Trent and Pastor Lee give theological reflections on a variety of current issues. Pastor Trent’s message notes are also available on his blog. I post a short devotion each day from my Bible reading. I choose a scripture, make an observation about it and then answer the question, “How will I be different because of what I just read?” I close each devotion with a prayer. You can find my blog at “rlcrouch.com” (no quotation marks).

I hope you will take advantage of these tools as you seek to grow as a Christian during this very unusual time in which we are living.

**Patient attention, valuable discoveries** (from TheNewsletterNewsletter)

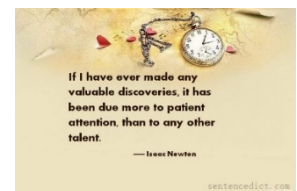
For many people, the coronavirus pandemic has been a test of patience — or worse. Medically vulnerable people face an anxious time of hypervigilance. Furloughed workers wait on hold or in lines for assistance. Special events have been canceled or rescheduled.

Those not impacted directly deal with assorted frustrations and inconveniences. Many people are learning the benefit of slowing down, being present (even virtually) to others and practicing patient attention.

Interestingly, scientist Isaac Newton did some of his best work when the plague forced Cambridge University to close. At home, the inquisitive student invented calculus and developed groundbreaking theories of gravity and optics. Later Newton called 1666 his *annus mirabilis* (“year of wonders”) and reportedly said, “If I have made any valuable discoveries, it [owes] more to patient attention than to any other talent.”

What have you discovered during the Covid-19 crisis? What appreciations have you developed for aspects of life you may have previously taken for granted? What has social distancing taught you about the value of neighbors, church, community volunteering?

During the pandemic, what have you learned about persistence and God’s presence? What empathy do you now feel for writers of words such as “I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope” (Psalm 130:5, NIV)?





I have to start off by saying a huge THANK YOU to you all!!! During this quarantine period, you all have still been so generous in regards to missions.

Shortly after COVID hit us, the mission board decided to do a fundraiser for Pastor Dasnis. We, the church, typically support his ministry through our monthly mission luncheons. However, in April we were not able to meet in person so we sold boxes of cards hoping to supplement a month's mission lunch. As usual, NBC stepped up and hit the ball way out of the park. Not only did we supplement one month's lunch but also between the cards and donations, we raised enough for two of our months' lunches. We sold 43 boxes of cards and with donations we raised over \$1200!!!!

Then, in July, we tried a take home meal because we are still not able to congregate and eat together. The mission board packaged "to go" bags including 2 hot dogs, chips and a cookie. With the donations from the lunch and other donations we raised over \$1000!!!!

So once again thank you for continuing to give in a time of many unknowns. God is still in control and He is not surprised by any of this. THANK YOU!!

Be on the lookout for more info, but next months "to go" lunch will have pepperoni rolls on the menu. You won't want to miss that!!!

**Back to School...?**



There are so many unknowns about going back to school. Each year we have been able to collect supplies for kids in our community. The mission board has been in contact with Highlawn Elementary, Huntington East Middle and Huntington High Schools to inquire about the need for supplies, and they have all agreed supplies are still needed this year. With schools doing a blended option, kids will need supplies while they do "school" from home 3 days a week. These supplies will make sure kids have the supplies they need at home as well. You may drop off supplies at the mission display board in the back of the sanctuary through August 30<sup>th</sup>. You may also donate money if you please, and we will gladly shop for you. If you prefer to give money, you can give it to Amy or Gail Kelly. You can also write a check to NBC with school supplies in the memo. Here is a list of supplies needed:

- Notebooks: 1 subject**
- Filler Paper: college ruled and wide ruled**
- Folders**
- Pencils**
- Pens: Red, Blue, and Black**
- Markers 8-10 count (Crayola)**
- Colored Pencils - 12 count (Crayola)**
- Crayons 24 count (Crayola)**
- Glue Sticks**
- Highlighters**
- Erasers: Pencil tops and Big Pink Ones**
- Composition Notebooks**
- Scissors**
- Pencil Boxes or Pouches**




**JUNE**

**FOOD PANTRY REPORT**

	<i>YTD</i>
<b>FAMILIES SERVED: <u>262</u></b>	<b><u>1915</u></b>
<b>INDIVIDUALS: <u>740</u></b>	<b><u>5261</u></b>
<i>INCLUDES</i>	
<b>CHILDREN: <u>205</u></b>	<b><u>1465</u></b>
<b>SENIORS: <u>178</u></b>	<b><u>1052</u></b>
<b>HOMELESS: <u>10</u></b>	<b><u>128</u></b>
<b>HYGIENE KITS: <u>262</u></b>	<b><u>609</u></b>
<b>FOOD PACKS: <u>0</u></b>	<b><u>1370</u></b>

*Thanks for your support*



Newsletter Deadline for September Bridges – Sunday, August 23

New Baptist Church.  
 Thank you so much for  
 your help making masks,  
 We are so appreciative of  
 your time and giving of  
 your resources. The donation  
 we will receive from  
 Wheaton College will be  
 a huge help to the ministry  
 costs of the House of Hope.  
 The needs in our communities  
 has greatly increased since  
 March. Again, thank you &  
 God Bless!

With sincere gratitude  
 and appreciation.

In Him,  
 JD & Rhonda Reed



**\*Bible Study\***

As most of our ladies at New Baptist have probably already concluded, things are going to look quite differently for fall Bible study sessions! However, we do want to assure those of you who love this area of ministry that we will be offering this opportunity for "in person" small groups. Here are a few of our guidelines... Due to restrictions and distancing, there will be no meetings in classrooms. Groups will be able to meet in the sanctuary and/or the Wildside where they can spread out more. Classes may meet on evenings other than Wednesday, but there will be no childcare at church. More details for signups and starting dates will be coming out on Facebook at New Baptist Church Community, in the September newsletter, and in other ways as leaders may decide. As for topics... the younger moms are still looking at some choices for their group. The rest of the groups will be using the study *THE FAITHFUL--Heroes of the Old Testament* presented by five of our favorite teachers: Priscilla Shirer, Kelly Minter, Beth Moore, Jennifer Rothschild, and Lisa Harper. The young moms group did this study earlier this year, and they thought it was great! Even though we may have to do things a little differently now, we will be diligent to give the opportunity for those who wish to participate in these small group studies!

**\*Ladies' Night Out\***

As a kickoff to Bible study, we will not be able to meet together and share a meal as usual. This is so disappointing for many of us--we look forward all year to this evening of food, fellowship, song, and worship! We love the speakers who share Bible study experiences, give information on our new studies, and share the theme message for the evening! So...we are working and planning to come up with a creative way to "DO" Ladies' Night Out without actually DOING Ladies' Night Out! If you have any ideas or input, please call me at 304.521.5129. If you have been a table hostess in the past, we will be in touch soon to finalize and carry out a Ladies' Night Out like we've never done before!

**\*Theme verse\***

I will leave you with one final look at our theme verse from this past year as we celebrated "Victory in Jesus" with the words from 1 Corinthians 15:57. These words have rung true in so many ways in so many of our lives since our Ladies' Night Out last year! "But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

**For Good,**  
 Dolores Adkins



(Please let the church office know if there are any names that need to be added or removed from the prayer concern list.)

**Church Family and Friends:** Karen Pruitt Adams, Chelcie & Coralie Adkins, Dan & Holli Beirne, Jenny Benson, Dorothy Castleberry, Mary Clifton, Jack Cook, Chelsea Caldwell Courts, Rose Davis, Sally Davis, Tracy Foster, Patty Green, Doris Halcombe, Ripley Haney, Minnie Harris, Anna Holstein, John Hovey, Jim Hughes, Sandy James, Tom Jones, Betty Kilgore, Virginia Lawrence, Joseph Leggott, Roy Maynor, Dick Meredith, Linda Miller, Michelle Morgan, Charlie Morris, Grace Napier, Bob & Paula Paden, Barbara Pauley, Jerry Powers, Carol Richardson, Jack Rickman, Jimmy Robinson, Ronnie & Denise Runnels, Walter & Marion Sansom, Major & Lynnette Simms, Barbara Lynn Spurlock, Jim & Ann Spurlock, Raymond & Carolyn Spurlock, Judy Swann, Grover Tadlock, Earl & Teresa Trawick, Pat Vickers, Don & Ellen Walker, Dave Watkins, Nolice White, Mary Lee Wilkes, Mark & Jo Ellen Willett, Sharon Wimmer,

Pray also for our pastors and our church; the community around us; unsaved loved ones; our military personnel; our government leaders; our country; all affected by the Covid-19 crisis

**Death in the church family:**



**Rosemary Watts**, 93, of Huntington, died July 10, 2020. Rosemary attended Beverly Hills Baptist and was a charter member of New Baptist. Due to health concerns, Rosemary had not attended church for many

years. Her husband, Wesley, preceded her in death. She is survived by a daughter, Patty (Ron)Tabor, sons Richard (Tammy) Watts and Michael (Alicia) Watts, two grandchildren and two great grandsons.

*From the desk of Pastor Lee:*

It's time to write an August article for our church newsletter and this has normally been my time to talk about back-to-school kickoffs and such. However, this year is not normal. This month has been somewhat turbulent for me. At the beginning of July, I was ready to start a new phase of meeting together; my plans were moving toward a new phase of a new normal, when we hit the brakes with an increase of COVID cases. With this yo-yo of decisions, I feel like I have been a yo-yo of emotions. Can you relate? With schools making plans for the fall, the questions seem to still outweigh the answers.

Our pastoral staff had a big discussion about how to deal with chaos in general. Our conversation boiled down to being faithful to what God has called us to do. One way I think about this is a lesson I learned early as I began to hike and explore the woods. I learned that, if I ever get lost and cannot find a familiar spot to stop, think about where I've come from. Look for any markers that might give me a sense of direction, and if necessary, head downhill and find water. Follow the water in the same direction until it leads to a town, road, or something that helps you get home.



I was reading Psalm 46 and the Psalmist says, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth gives way..." When everything feels like or maybe *is* in chaos, God is present to help and protect us. Verse 4 says, "There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High." Where God is, there is the waypoint, the presence of stability and steadiness that brings us home when we are lost, that rescues us when we are in trouble. This Psalm has a contrast of chaos and peace. The chaos of the

world and peace found in God. One of my favorite verses is found in verse 10 "Be still and know that I am God."

What a great lesson, in the chaos, in the unknown, in feeling lost or wandering, stop...be still... find the waypoint, the thing that can give you a sense of direction, something that is steady that will rescue. That waypoint is not a thing, but the one true God who is present.

During this season, we have opportunities to hold onto the firm fortress, which is our God. We might not have exact answers for a new school year, or when we are meeting for Sunday School or kids and youth activities, but we do know one thing: God has not left us, God is here in the midst of every circumstance.

How can I know this? Well the Bible is chocked full of stories of God's faithfulness. Moments of lost people (or nations) being found. Impossible situations miraculously made possible by God. The more I read the Bible and talk about these stories with my family, the more we look for God to turn dire situations of hopelessness or loss into hope and life. That is who God is. When everything is crumbling, God is a still river that faithfully guides us to safety.

There is a lot we miss doing during this season, but one thing cannot be taken away, and that is our ability as individuals and families to be still with God. To read the Bible and memorize it. To pray and watch for what God is doing in and around us and to join in that work to be a blessing wherever we are placed. These are the areas we can be faithful in, no matter what.

We are updating resources on our website and Facebook group to help you and your family lean on God during this season. Know that we are praying for you as well and are available along your journey to walk with you, answer questions, or help provide resources as you might need.

### A few smiles:

*Why didn't they play cards on the Ark?*

Because Noah was always standing on the deck

*Who was the first tennis player in the bible?*

Joseph because he served in Pharaoh's court

*Who is the greatest babysitter mentioned in the Bible?*

David — he rocked Goliath to a very deep sleep

*Who was the greatest moneyman in the Bible?*

Noah. He was floating his stock while everyone else was in liquidation.

*Where was Solomon's temple located?*

On the side of his head.

*Why did Noah have to punish and discipline the chickens on the Ark?*

They were using fowl language.




Notes from NBC Choir Director, Karen Dailey

There is a plethora of examples throughout scripture that should stir our hearts to the importance and joy of singing together. Consider the first song recorded in Scripture which is found in Exodus 15 sung by Moses, Miriam and the Hebrew children after they had crossed the Red Sea on dry ground and stood safely on the eastern shore. There they watched their oppressive slave masters be swallowed up by the sea. Moses and Miriam called them to sing a song of thanksgiving and praise celebrating God 's promise to bring them safely out of Egypt. "The LORD is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation." (Exodus 15:2) Mirrored in this story is the story of our salvation through Christ. Therefore, we should follow the lead of Moses and Miriam as we make Him and His resurrection the central theme of our singing. As we stand on our own eastern shore, with our enemy defeated and death destroyed we should remember, He has saved us! And so, we should sing songs of thanksgiving and praise!

Our singing, right now throughout this trying time is not as we have become accustomed. Oh, how I have missed our choir but have been thankful for the corporate worship we have been able to enjoy. At the 9 o'clock service each week we are singing sacred hymns of our heritage.

Songs that have endured through years of equally trying times. The 11 o'clock service each week presents us opportunity to sing new songs with a more contemporary sound. Each opportunity to sing should be reminding you of the truth of the Gospel and the promises of God. It is the prayer of those of us choosing the songs that they lift your heart and encourage you. May they inspire you to lift your heart and voice in song everyday no matter your circumstances. In your trials, look for a song to provide you with comfort and remind you of His strength. In your triumphs, may your heart rejoice in song with praise and thanksgiving.





# BEHAPPY

In Matthew 5:3-10, Jesus begins his teaching with the Beatitudes. They give us many reasons to be happy. The Greek word for blessed, *makarios*, also means happy!

**Directions:** Complete the Beatitudes by matching the blanks in each "Happy" phrase on the left with the bold word(s) on the right.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. "Happy are the <b>POOR</b> _____</li> <li>2. "Happy are those who _____</li> <li>3. "Happy are the _____</li> <li>4. "Happy are those who _____</li> <li>5. "Happy are the _____</li> <li>6. "Happy are the _____</li> <li>7. "Happy are the _____</li> <li>8. "Happy are those who are _____</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>hunger and thirst</b> for righteousness, for they will be filled."</li> <li><b>pure in heart</b>, for they will see God."</li> <li><b>peacemakers</b>, for they will be called the children of God."</li> <li><b>persecuted</b> because of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven."</li> <li><b>poor in spirit</b>, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."</li> <li><b>merciful</b>, for they will be shown mercy."</li> <li><b>meek</b>, for they will inherit the earth."</li> <li><b>mourn</b>, for they will be comforted."</li> </ol>
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## New Baptist Church

610 28<sup>th</sup> Street  
Huntington WV 25702

### Office Hours:

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
Tuesday thru Friday

### Phone:

304-523-3355

### Fax:

304-523-3399

### E-mail:

[newbaptist2008@gmail.com](mailto:newbaptist2008@gmail.com)

### On the Web:

[www.newbaptistchurch.com](http://www.newbaptistchurch.com)

### Pastors:

Rev. Trent Eastman  
([trente@me.com](mailto:trente@me.com))

Rev. Lee Boso  
([leeboso@gmail.com](mailto:leeboso@gmail.com))

Rev. Robin Crouch  
([rlcrouch1948@gmail.com](mailto:rlcrouch1948@gmail.com))

### Service Hours:

#### Sunday

##### 9am Worship Service

- Traditional Hymns
- Social Distancing Practiced
- Masks Required

##### \*11am Worship Service

- Praise & Worship Hymns
- Social Distancing Practiced
- Masks Required

\*The 11am service is also  
live streamed on FaceBook  
([@NewBaptistChurchWV](https://www.facebook.com/NewBaptistChurchWV))

#### Wednesday

6pm

Pastor's Devotion on  
Facebook Live

NBC Food Pantry  
Tuesdays 10am-4pm

NEW BAPTIST CHURCH  
610 28<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
HUNTINGTON WV 25702



GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD AND  
**PROCLAIM HIS GREATNESS.**

LET THE WHOLE WORLD KNOW  
WHAT HE HAS DONE.

PSALM 105:1, NLT